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NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS

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VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing im portant news, solicited from any quarter of the world; if used, will be liberally paid for. DOE FORKIGN COR RESPONDENTS ARE PARTICULARLY REQUESTED TO SEAL ALL LETTERS AND PACKAGES SENT US.

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AMESPMENTS THIS PVENING

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—Clandestine Man-OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.-The Streets of Naw

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery, -- Jack and His STEED-NARRAWATTAH-- HAPPY MAN. BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery .- WACQUSTA-BOTTLE INP.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.-THE SHAMBOOK. BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.-THE LIVE IN

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway .- HANDET

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway.—Two Mannoth Pa WORKS—LIVING SEELEMON.—DWARE—LEARNED SEAL—GRANI SPROTAGLE—FARIES, TIE HAVES, &G.—Day and Evening. BRYANTS' MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—Ethiopan Songs, Dances, Burlesques, &c.—Liv

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 514 Broadway.-Gissippids-Jack on the Green-Ethiopian Songs, Dances, &c. SALLE DIABOLIQUE, 585 Broadway.—Robert Heller

VAN AMBURGH & CO.'S MAMMOTH MENAGERIE 559 and 541 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M. HIPPOTHEATRON, Fourteenth street.—Equestrian, Granastic and Achoratic Entertainments.—Habitsquis

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway.—BALLETS

HOOLEY & CAMPBELL'S MINSTRELS, 199 and 201 Bowery, Songs, Dancis, Bullesques, &c. Goose And NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.

New York, Monday, January 16, 1865.

THE SITUATION.

Richmond papers of Friday last aunounce that Franc P. Blair, Sr., arrived in that city on last Wednesday might, and he was expected to leave again for General Grant's lines on last Saturday. He had kept his mov ments from the public eye, and even his stopping place was a mystery; but it was said that he had had inter views with Joff. Davis and the principal officers of his

A recent number of the Mobile Advertiser reports about four thousand Union troops at Franklin Mills, on Dog supplies being received by way of the river. The rebels had had a skirmish with them; but their position is described as "unassailable."

Admiral Porter has sent a communication to the Navy Department in which he responds to some of General Butler's statements in regard to the naval part of the expedition delaying the attack on Fort Fisher, and thus causing its failure. He says that the only work assigned to the navy was to silence the rebel works, and that it did that effectually on the 24th and 25th of December: but that, as General Butler then decided an assault by his military force unfeasible, it would not have been less so on an earlier day. He is of the opinion that the fort could easily have been taken by the troops if an offert had been made. General Butler started on the expedition, the Admiral says, before the naval fleet was ready to co-operate with him, and thus, by exposing his transports to the view of the enemy, warned them of their danger. He also charges that the army portion of the enterprise was gotten up in a very unmilitary

Deserters from Fort Fisher who have recently come of to the Union fleet, report that that work was about surrendering on the 25th ult., when they were astonished to learn that the Union troops were being withdrawn. They represent the garrison as greatly demoralized and the Quarters all destroyed

There was a report in General Sheridan's army or Saturday night that a large body of rebels was advancing on Weston, Lewis county, Virginia, situated on the West branch of the Monongahela river; but accounts from that region yesterday did not confirm this rumor.

On Friday last, while four companies from the Army of the Potomac were out on a foraging expedition, they were attacked by a party of rebels in ambush and stam peded. Captain Burage Rice, of the Fifth corps, who nded the foraging detachment, was left behind in the flight of his men, and from the appearance of his body, which, stripped of every particle of clothing, and with two shots through the head, was afterwards recovered, it looked as though be had been murdered after being captured. The Rich mond newspapers of last Friday say that General Grant's army railroad runs day and night, and is transporting vast stores to the extreme left of his lines. where they expect his next effort to be made, and where they say it is rumored he has recently succeeded in advancing his pickets. They report that the freshet on James river commenced to subside on last Thursday, and think that it must either render navigable the Dutch Cap canal or effectually close it up An explosion beard on the 9th inst. to surmised to have been a second Yankee effort to blow at out. The freshet, they state, caused several of their bombproofs along the river to cave in, which resulted in some casualties. The Yankee artillery fire in Chesterfield is reported as being still kept up.

We publish on the second page of this morning's Henald some very interesting matter relative to the lasportant emancipation movements to Kentucky and Missouri, Including the proceedings of the convenflon in the latter Etate, which passed the ordi same abolishing slavery, and the synopsis of a spector's office, and is official.

speech in the Legislature of the former State unequivocally in favor of the same course there The action of the Convention in Missouri has been ratified by the people in illuminations and general rejoicings, and it will be remembered that in a State conven tion held at Frankfort, Kentucky, on the 4th inst., resolutions strongly urging the constitutional amendment abolishing and prohibiting slavery throughout the coun try were adopted by acclamation.

Our despatches by the steamship Continental, from New Orleans on the 7th inst., give some additional particulars of the gallant exploit of Ensign Blume and boat's crew of Union sailors in Galveston harbor, noticed in last Thursday's HERALD. They cut out from within five hundred yards of the rebel guardship a schooner laden with one hundred and twenty bales of cotton, waiting a chance to run the blockade, and took her safely out past the rebel batteries to the Union fleet. Regarding the reported engagement near Mobile on the 31st ult. there is nothing additional. The robol guerillas, who for a time were very quiet along the Louisiana shore of the Mississippi, have again become active and troublesome, and a number of Union expeditions to chastis them have been sent out from Baton Rouge and other posts. Generals Baldy Smith, Gilmore and Steele were in New Orieans on the 7th inst. General Bailey, of Red river engineering fame, has been appointed to the command of the Baton Rouge district.

Communications from Jeff. Davis, his Secretary War and the rebel provost marshal at Fredericksburg Va., laid before the Richmond Congress on last Friday, indicate that Mr. Henry S. Foote was arrested at Occomun by order of the latter functionary without any instructions from Richmond. The provos marshal says the reason he arresto'i Mr. Foote was that the latter stated that he was on bis way to Washington to negotiate for peace. He had paroled him, to await or defs from Richmond as to his further disposal. The rebe House appointed a committee to investigate the case.

The latest rebel accounts reiterate previous report that General Sherman's troops had crossed New river, in South Carolina, and were marching on Grahamsville, but in what numbers or for what objective point had not I the United States. been developed.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

Edward Everett, the eminent orator, scholar, statesmaand author, died of apoplexy, at his residence in Boston yesterday morning, in the seventy first year of his ag Secretary Seward has issued an official order from the State Department, by instruction of the President, direct ing that the several executive departments of the government "cause appropriate honors to be rendered to the the national name and authority are acknowledged.

After Mr. Everett's death had been announced yesterday We give in this morning's HERALD a biographical sketch

of the distinguished deceased.

Provost Marshal General Fry, in a circular recently sued, gives as the reason why the quotas assigned unde issued, gives as the reason why the quotas assigned under the President's last call for three hundred thousand sol-diers are not in proportion to the population of States or districts, the fact that in some localities the quotas under the previous call were filled with volunteers for longer terms of service than those enlisted in others—some dis ricts enlisting a majority of three years men, others of credit for the number of years of service which a district may furnish, as well as for the number of recruits.

The skating yesterday in the Park was admirable, thousands of people repaired to the pends to enjoy the sport. From an early hour in the morning until late at night the Fifty-ninth and Seventy-second street pond were crowded with people of both sexes, who particle pated in the sport with the highest gusto. The day was splendid, and, being quite cold, favored the exercise t the fullest extent. It is expected that the ice to-day both on the Fifth avenue pond and in the Park, will b in the finest order,

Another steamship—the Daniel Webster—will sail from

this port with provisions for the Savannah sufferers to day, leaving from the foot of Canal street. A steamship imilarly laden left Boston on Saturday.

The fast sailing iron prize steamer Julia, captured the 23d ult., with over four hundred bales of upland cot ion on board, while attempting to run the blockade, by the United States gunboat Acada, arrived in this portyesterday from Port Royal, S. C., in charge of a prize

Josephine and Hannah Miller, and a colored man named Joseph Sands, were yesterday committed to the Tombs on the complaint of a countryman named Thomas Brown, William McGovern, who has not yet been arrested, robbe him of over twelve hundred dollars in gold in a disreputa ble house in Baxter street on last Thursday night.

A man named John Wilson was yesterday committed t the Tombs charged with baving, on the 25th ult., in company with another man yet unarrested, taken lodgings the Revere House, Broadway, and during the course of the night stolen two hundred dollars worth of wearing apparel, attempted to fire the building, and then de

Bernard O'Neil and Henry Gaffney were yesterday as Variek and King streets, during which they were then selves the loudest in the cry of "Stop thief !" on th charge of robbing the till of a Hudson street liquor dealer of about forty-three dollars. They were locked up for

trial,
John McCormick and Michael Crogan were yesterday committed to swait the result of very severe injuries alleged to have been inflicted by them with clubs, on Saturday evening, on Thomas Nevins, a car driver on th Belt Italirond.

A lad named Joseph Brower was looked up for examina

tion, charged with having stolen from a Broadway store

fors worth two hundred and thirty-four dollars. Within the past week a number of counterfelt bills. fives on the Bank of Haverhill, Mass., and threes on the State Bank of Camden, N. J.—bave been passed in Jersey City and Hoboken. Some of the latter have been set affoat in this city. The Jersey City and Hoboken police have arrested four persons charged with being engaged in circulating this spurious currency, named Gilbert have locked them up for examination. Both the men and the women belong on board an Eric canal boat lying

at Jersey City. OPERA IN CHICAGO. - Ever since our annound ment that Impressario Grau had engaged Zucchi and Massimiliani and the rest of the Academy troupe, and that he would give Opera with these artists in Chicago, the people of that city have been in a state of intense excitement Their new opera house is to open on Easter Monday; but they prefer to give up Lent and have the Opera sooner. Perhaps the Pope's plenary indulgence may accommodate them. The Chicago gentlemen are greatly troubled about the full dress regulation. They say that dress coats are very dear, and can be used on n other occasion than Opera nights, and they hold that frock coats, with white gloves and neckties, ought to be allowable. The ladies are in a terrible flutter, and every dressmaker is engaged ten deep. These rural ideas of fashionable manners and customs are very amusing. By their very attempts to rival New York the Chicago people admit it to be the only me tropolis of the country. We wish them joy o Gran and their Opera, and shall try to keep them posted upon all the latest styles here.

MORTALITY OF THE CITY.-We publish in another column a table of mortality, showing a decrease of 1.4 per cent in 1864 from 1863 This table is based upon the estimate that New York had eighty thousand more population last year than the year before. We consider this a low estimate. New York ought to be the healthiest city in the world, and with a proper administration of the city government it will be. The table was prepared in the City In-

The Southern Rebellion and the French

Between the Southern rebellion and the French Revolution, viewed simply as great events, without reference to their causes, and especially without reference to the question of right, there are some notable resemblances. We of coarse hold that every circumstance in French history, and every point in the law of reason, fully justified the action by which the French people overthrew the ancient monarchy. and broke up through the crust of European order, in their attempt to establish a free gov ernment. We as definitely hold that the Jeff. Davis rebellion is the most wicked attempt that history ever saw to break down a good government for the perpetuation of a monstrous evil and for the gratification of personal ambition. So much premised, we may compare the events without danger of having it thought that we confound them one with another in any general

Both were revolts against the established order of a continent, and each effectively arrayed the power of a nation against the con servative forces. In France and in the United States alike the revolt was nursed when it might have been crushed by the men whose duty it was to oppose it. Louis might have put the revolution down a dozen times; but he acted in the premises with such a ridiculous extremity of weakness and vacillation that it was not supposed any man could be so utterly purposcless; and his conduct was thought to be the result of some deep design. Lameth said, "The executive is pretending to be dead." Here Buchanan was a reduplication of Louis. He stood still and let the rebellion grow into an organized power. Though his utter want of character was well known, yet the people were disposed to credit his conduct to a treasonable complicity, rather than to believe that any such complete nonentity as he appeared to be could ever have been elected President of

Europe put a considerable power in the field in the cause of order, and expected that it would put the rebellion down at a blow. It sent its well equipped troops on a "military promenade" against the raw levies of revolu tionary France, drilled and formed by the excellent officers of the old French armies On the field of Valmy the French Revolution contrary to all anticipation, gained its "Bull run" battle. Had the forces opposed to the rebellion gained that battle, they would have marched to Paris without another struggle, reestablished the old order, and the rebellion would have been done with. But there, as here, the unlooked for event led strangely to another result. Valmy showed that Europe had an enemy that it could not despise, and impressed every one with the conviction that it was but the first battle of a protracted and desperate war. There was an immense cry to arms; and arms were taken up scarcely to be laid down at all until every household on the continent had felt the influence of the struggle

Valmy and Bull run each apparently gave start in life to a new nation; but the dreadful contentions of ambitious politicians nearly destroved the existence those battles gave. The Reign of Terror that swept France was not less terrible, though different in character, than the reign of terror that the quarrels of Southern eaders has caused to sweep over the South ern States of this Union. Had the politicians been left to themselves they would have destroyed the cause in both cases, both by the blunders of their foreign system and by the factious quarrels that destroyed all concert of action in domestic matters. In France military success, represented in the person of Napoleon. "saved the revolution." No political misman agement could destroy a power that was victorious on every field where its colors were soen. Here it was the same in a less positive degree. Jackson, Johnston and some others, kept the rebellion alive in spite of Davis and the rest.

Our affairs, as they at present stand, have reached an advanced stage in the parallel. Sherman's march from Atlanta to Savannah is equivalent to the battle of Leipsic. It cuts away from the power of the rebellion all the Gulf States, as that battle did all Germany; it arrays all those States against the rebel power, and it sets free an immense force, enabling it to march at once on the Paris that here is situated on the James. Hence, while Grant is already in front of Lee-while the country rises for the Union in Georgia-we hear also of the advance towards Richmond of both Sherman and Thomas. Their arrival will finally settle the great struggle, and will give us at once the Paris and the Waterloo of the parallel. It is one remarkable point in the comparison, that bere we have crowded into four years the very same series of events that in Europe extended

The Dominican and Spanish-Peruvias Imbroglio-The Proposed Action of

The latest advices from Europe inform us that not long since the Spanish minis try strongly advised the Queen of Spain to withdraw her troops from St. Domingo where, for the last three years, they have been waging a disastrous and signally unsuccessful war against the hardy na tives of the country. Her Majesty would not accede to the proposition, and in her address to the Cortes made no direct reference to the war in St. Dominge. The consequence was that the whole ministry resigned, and the government in consequence became greatly embarrassed. It was generally thought throughout Europe and in this country that the Dominican question was the only real point of difficulty with the Spanish ministry. But we now per ceive that there is another cloud in the sky in every way as portentous. We allude to the imbroglio between the Spanish and Peruvian governments. That the Spaniards have event ually come to the conclusion of abandoning St. Domingo altogether there is no longer any doubt. They pretend that they wil hold possession of the capital and the Bay of Samana, but this is a threat which they can not carry into effect, however much they might be inclined to do so. The Dominican question may then be considered as effectually settled.

The Spanish-Peruvian question has not yet advanced very far towards a settlement. Our latest intelligence from Lima shows that matters were in statu quo. But from Spain we have some strange news. It is there considered that the Peruvian difficulty will be a tiled in the present month. An ambassador, or apecial commissary, General Pareja, has been sent from Spain to Peru with full powers to arrange all matters in dispute between the two Powers Peru holds that she has been insulted by the seizure of the Chincha Islands, and demands their evacuation and that her flag be saluted by the Spaniards. General Pareja's instructions, on the other hand, are to demand complete and permanent satisfaction for "all the insults offered to Spain and all Spanish interests that have been injured." A veritable case of the wolf and the lamb. And here comes in one of the old barbarisms of Spanish warfare. 'If," we are told by a Madrid journal, "this satisfaction be not accorded, our vessels before returning to Spain will leave in Peru a memorial that none can insult us with impunity, and that, without pretensions to territorial aggrandizement, we are strong enough to take satisfaction with our own hands." This simply means that, if the Peruvians, through a sense of right and justice, should refuse to accede to the absurd protensions of Spain, the Spanish fleet will bombard and destroy her principal ports, and then up steam and back to Spain with all that kind of glory.

It now remains to be seen whether the people of Peru will submit to the Spaniards; and, in case they should not, whether the naval forces under Pinzon will be allowed to carry out the threatened act of barbarism. It must be conceded that Spain will have the advantage in the beginning, and she may succeed in destroying property of great value to Peru. But such an act will more than anything else to unite other South American republics, and, in making common cause with Peru, they will inflict bloody retaliation upon Spain and Spaniards. All commerce between South America and Spain would speedily cease, and all the efforts that have been so long in progress towards a reconciliation between the mother country and her former colonies would be rendered abortive in a single moment. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the counsels of reason will prevail and that peace may continue between the two parties.

There is a moral to be drawn from all these European complications on this continent. They were mest, if no all, of them attempted because the United States were involved in civil war, and the rulers of Europe thought it the best opportunity to carry out their designs here. How stands the ease now? Our rebellion is being rapidly brought to a close, and in a few months more peace will be restored. In the meantime the real difficulties of the European Powers are beginning, and they are finding to their cost that it would have been better for them had they never intermeddled in the affairs of this continent at all.

The Herald Constantly Ahead-The Other Papers Petition Congress for

Sympathy.

We ask the particular attention of the public to the petition recently presented to Congress by Sam. Wilkeson, the Washington correspondent of the Tribuns. That petition, which has since been endorsed by the World, sets forth in decided terms that the HERALD was several days in advance of all the other papers in the publication of the news of General Butler's removal, and begs Congress to abolish the censorship of the telegraph in order that the other papers may get some of the news Sam. Wilkeson is a pretty good sort of a man, although he is too busy with the Tribune Contract Bureau at Washington to make a good correspondent. We are obliged to him for calling official notice to the fact that the HERALD is constantly ahead. Almost everybody in general, and the chief editor of the Tribune especially, has acknowledged that fact already; but we do not remember that it has previously been brought before Congress and entered upon the records of that body. Such a testimony to our enterprise, and such a frank admission of our superiority, are, of course, very grateful to us, and will encourage us to a splendid corps of war correspondents, at an enormous expense, and it appears that they know how to obtain the news and how to send it to our office, in both of which qualifications the correspondents of the Tribune and other papers are deficient. Having failed to equal us in any other way, the other journals have determined to try to accomplish it by act of Congress. In spite of our doubts of their success in this undertaking, we shall advise them to proceed with it, since it is clearly their only chance. And at the same time we really thank them for the Congressional advertisement which they have so kindly procured for us. Upon one point, however, the petition o

Sam. Wilkeson is open to objection. We se no reason why he should have confined his illustrations of the assertion of the superior enterprise of the HERALD to the single incident of Butler's removal. He might have included. if he pleased, almost every incident of this war. Just before the war began we gave the other papers an earnest of what they had to expect by our special report of the arrival of the Prince of Wales at Newfoundland, and our telegraphic reports of his progress throughout the British provinces and this country. The Tribune might have taken the hint of our enterprise from our correspondence about the John Brown raid, and especially from our description of the burial of John Brown's accomplices in New Jersey; for, although the funeral took place at the residence of one of the Tribune Association, the HERALD was the only paper that published the news of the affair. Since the war commenced its history has been simply a history of the successes of the Union and the HERALD. Our special reporter at Charleston sent us the first account of the bombardmen of Fort Sumter, and for this the Tribune people endeavored to incite a mob against our office From that day to this we have beaten them constantly. We beat them, and were ahead of the government despatches, in our report of the battle of Shiloh. We beat them at the siege of Yorktown, when Mr. Gay, editor of the Tribune, wrote:-"The HERALD is constantly ahead. We are obliged to copy from it." We beat them at Williamsburg, when we published the only full and authentic report of that battle. We have beaten them at Mine Run, at Stone river, or Murfreesboro, at Gettysburg, during the dreadful seven days on the Peninsula, at Pea Ridge, at Corinth, and at all the Fremont fig! ts in Missouri. We beat them in our reports of the operations against Vicksburg and the passage of the rebel batteries by our fleets. We beat them at the iron-clad fight with Fort McAllister, and the capture of the rebel ram by the Weehawken and Nabant. We beat them tremendously at New Orleans, and at Farragut's

fight in Mobile bay. We have beaten them

regularly in Southern news and in the publica-

tion of Jeff. Davis' messages and public docu-

ments. All those triumphs, and others, too nu-

merous to mention here, ought to have been recorded in Wilkeson's petitio The Henald was ahead of all the other pa

pers in the news of Thomas' battles at Franklin

and Nashville; in the full account of Sherman's march through Georgia and capture of Savannah; in our Sayannah news last Saturday; in the reports of Sheridan's victories in the valley, and in the description of the battle of The Cedars. We were the first to publish the Bank rupt bill, as the World reluctantly confessed We first obtained the Army and Navy List of the rebels, to the astonishment of Jeff. Davis who charged that the clerks in the rebel departments had turned traitors. The operations of rebel privateers have uniformly been first reported in our columns. We published the earliest and fullest description of the sinking of the Alabama by the Kearsarge, from our special Cherbourg correspondent. No other paper but the HERALD had a report of the military operations at Fort Fisher. We first printed Maximilian's manifesto in regard to church pro perty in Mexico. We gave the only special report of Maximilian's progress to and reception at the Mexican capital. On Friday last the HERALD was the only journal which contained the appendix to the encyclical letter of the Pope. In a word, every important event is originally chronicled in these columns. With this brilliant list before him whence to choose why did Sam. Wilkeson restrict his eulogies to the Butler removal? Was it because the other papers have not given their readers the full particulars of Butler's departure even yet? Was it because the other correspondents were so badly beaten that, with the mails open to them, they did not send on the news for two days after we had published it in the Herald? Sam. Wilkeson complains of the censorship upon the telegraph; but, if he had the news, as he claims, why did he not transmit it by mail? It would have reached the Tribune in twelve hours had he done so. We do not object to the abrogation of the censorship. On the contrary, we should be glad of it. The greater our facilities the greater will be our superiority If we can beat the other papers by two days without the telegraph, we can beat them by four days with the telegraph free. In any event, then, Sam. Wilkeson can make nothing by his petition. An act of Congress cannot make dull men enterprising or the HERALD dull. It is the Tribune correspondents who are at fault, not . the censor; and so with all the other papers. Under the circumstances, therefore, we regard the petition as a good advertisement for us, although it would have been more just had it included all the instances of our superiority-a few o which we have modestly recalled. But the public knows, and the editors of other journals know, that, petition or no petition, telegraph or no telegraph, censor or no censor, act of Congress or no act of Congress, the HERALD is and will be constantly ahead, and its contemporaries are obliged to copy from it.

The Experiment of the State Rights

Mr. Miles, member from South Carolina, the hot bed of secessionism and State rights, has introduced a resolution, in the rebel Congress declaring that "all attempts to make peace with the United States, by the action or intervention of the separate States comprising the Confederacy, are unauthorized by the constitution, in contravention of the supreme law of the land, and therefore revolutionary."

The question of State rights has been bone of contention ever since the organization of this government. It has been the cauldron into which all the elements of discontent have been cast, like the charms of the witches in Macbeth, until it has seethed and boiled over in the present rebellion. There were four great experiments made in our history to establish each of which this questio vexata-this dogma of State rights-played a prominent part. The first was the Revolution, out of which we emerged in the position of an independent nation. Then the States formed a confederation, which was found to be imperfect, and the constitution was framed after much discussion upon the same question under which we became not a mere federation of separate States, but a united republic. Again, when the war of 1812 was upon us, the subject of State rights was revived in the New England States, and culminated in the Hartford Convention and the blue-light treason. It was at this time that Mr. Madison was induced to pay an impostor named Henry \$50,000 out of the secret service fund for revealing the alleged plans of the New England agitators to revolt, go over to the enemy and unite with Canada. Thus we see the New Englanders were the first secessionists, and it is very likely if a treaty of peace with Great Britain had not been made at the time it was made, the New England States would have seceded from the Union. In 1832 John C. Calhoun, in his monomania of State rights, again renewed the idea in South Carolina, where it was crushed for a time by Jackson, but where it has stuck with wonderful tenacity until it has made that State the mother of mis chief and a plague spot upon the body politic to be finally and utterly repudiated by the resolution of one of its leading delegates to the rebel Congress.

We know how the disease broke out again in 1861, and another experiment, wanton in its inception, unjustifiable by the circumstances of the times and bloody in its fruition, was made by the political leaders of the Southern States. For four years the dogma has been contended for on many battle fields. But the mist is being dispelled. The very incidents of the war are neutralizing the pretensions of the several States to independent sovereignty. The ques tion most prominent in the rebellious States now is the right to further secession. The Executive, Jeff. Davis, is at loggerheads with the Governors and Legislatures of the Southern States, and the internal dissensions based upon the idea of State rights is almost as potent a weapon in crushing the rebellion as our generals or our armies.

Let us look at our soldiers in the field, and what becomes of the individuality of States? Here we see soldiers from Massachusetts side by side with those from Illinois, and men from New York shoulder to shoulder with troops from Kentucky and Tennessee; marching with Sherman through Georgia; fighting with Grant on the James; occupying captured New Orleans. Such incidents will obliterate all political lines between State and State, and when this war is over all the theories of vistonaries and dreamers wil, be discarded, and the substantial idea that the dogma of State rights, insisted upon at the risk of the permanency of a

united country, is an absurdity, will become ount. We opine that this rebellion will prove the last experiment to trifle with the solidarity of the States, combined as ours are. in a common destiny.

The Canadian Muddle.

The imperial government must have a delightful time of it just now. It has been taking considerable interest in our affairs the last four years, looking on as the barbarians did at St. Paul when at Melita a serpent fastened upon his hand; and they waited complacently to see him fall a victim to its poisonous fangs. But the reptile was shaken off, innocuous. And such is the spectacle these modern islanders will now have to witness with regard to us. In the meantime would it not be very profitable empleyment for these lookers-on to contemplate some of the brood of troubles from which they themselves are beginning to suffer? We have shown how the British government has had "to eat dirt" in the affair of Denmark; we have explained the Australian difficulty, and the bespattering with mud which has attended the attempt to make that country the perpetual home of British convicts. We have alluded also to the Honduras affair, in which the Emperor of Mexico, so called, has claimed the sovereignty of the Belize, and has proclaimed his authority over the British wood cutters. Muddles all! And now we have another of later concoction—the Canadian muddle—the worst of any.

For some time past our trans-Laurentian friends, using the phraseology of their great geologist, Sir William Logan, have been warned by the home government that they must look out for themselves, and not longer expect to be defended by British troops or kept up by British money. The Western Canadians, not feeling very safe in their connections with the French population of Eastern Canada, hit on the expedient of a confederation, by which several advantages were to be gained. One was the geographical and political strength of additional provinces; another. In gain of units and mutual support; and, above all, the pos session of a majority in the legislation and government of the confederation, which would swamp the Frenchmen and the priests. All the preliminary arrangements were accordingly made, and promised well. The delegates met, ate and drank, made out their programme and sent it to England, where it was well received. The Crown retains its supremacy and the princes are allowed to tickle themselves with straws. Just at the crisis of its fate, however, the whole scheme has become precarious. New views of the subject suddenly are taken in unexpected quarters. Amidst the difficulties which have arisen through the recent breaches of neutrality on the part of the Canadian authorities, approved by the stupic presses, which are always arrayed on the side of anti-republican principles, it has been plainly seen, as Mr. Galt recently said in one of his best speeches, the Canadians "stand in the presence of a great Power."

In a moment the bad faith of these people

strips them of their supposed security; they have sheltered and encouraged raiders, robbers and murderers to come from their territory inte ours to do us all the mischief in their power They have hesitated as long as they dared in performing their duty in returning them under the Extradition treaty; and one simple measure alone, that of enforcing the use of passports or travellers coming from their country into ours has nearly set them crazy. Their great rail ways lines, always indebted to the United States for the best share of their freigh and travel, no longer pay expenses, and the termination of the Reciprocity treaty bid fair to ensure their bankruptcy. Nor is thi all. Opposition to the plea of confederation begins to show itself in all the lower provinces The leading naner in St. John's, New Brunswie admits a sturdy opposition there, and confesse that the country presses are generally agains it. In Halifax, it is also admitted, there is powerful and talented party arrayed against th plan and openly proclaiming their opposition while in Prince Edward Island, one of the mos flourishing and independent of all the maritim provinces, though on a small scale, there is a overthrow of the colonial Ministry in conse quence of the agitation on the subject. This island is a gem of the sea, possessing a fertil soil, fine harbors and an active and industriou population, trading loyally with the United States. It is apparent enough to the Princ Edward people that a union with Canada an with British Columbia cannot be of any grea advantage to them; and so they naturally ob ject, as we should do, if we were one of thei contented and prosperous inhabitants.

Our readers will at once perceive, therefore how the muddle has been occasioned and wha may be the end of it. The real truth of the whole matter does not lie in a well, but rathe in a nutshell. The geographical, commercia and political interests of the provinces ar diverse. Those of Canada West lie closel alongside of those of the Northwestern States which give them their business. Those Canada East lie with the States of Nex York, Vermont, and New Hampshire, a the map shows and the railroads demon Those of the maritime provinces are intimatel connected with the New England States or th Atlantic. All other connections are to ther really of no value whatever, and if they do no see it now, they will at no distant day. Th conduct of the Canadians and Nova Scotian during the present rebellion has been such as t deprive them of our sympathy at this other wise interesting moment, and the best thin they can do is to intimate the example of their rebel friend Jeff. Davis, and appoint a day of fasting and of prayer. We see no other bely for them at present. They are thrown over board by the home government, they feel the have forfeited our esteem, they have got into complete slough, and they must flounder out e it the best way they can. When we bear tha annexation is openly proposed by the leading French Canadians as the only solution of their difficulties, the subject becomes one of moment but at present we have little encouragement to give on our part to any such measure. Cal dépend.

The Political Decadence of a Once Great

The policy of England appears of late to have been essentially changed in its character. When Mr. Canning lived, it'was well understood tha under his inspiration the British governmen people as well as those which were created by kings." And it was in this spirit that this great statesman gave his influence in support of the South American republics, and pr